



OSA BOG Meeting Minutes

Date:	Scheduled Date: 01/12/2025	Meeting Type: Regular
Time:	8:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EST)	Actual Start Time: 8:05 PM
Location:	Virtual	Actual End Time: 10:12 PM
Presided By:	Leena Mishra	
Topic:	Regular BOG Meeting	

Invitees/Attendees:

BOG Member	Chapter	Designation	Attendance
Leena Mishra	OSA EC	President, OSA	Yes
Saradakanta Panda	OSA EC	Vice President	No
Santwana Dash	OSA EC	Secretary	Yes
Subhransu Mishra	OSA EC	Treasurer	Yes
Gyana Patnaik	Past President	Imm. Past President	No
Rani Acharya	OSA EC	Jt. Secretary	No
Siddarth Parhi	OSA EC	Jt. Treasurer	No
Satyabrata Mohanty	OSA – CA	Chapter President	Yes
Chinmaya Panda	OSA – GA	Chapter President	Yes

Supragnya Dash	OSA – Ohio	Chapter President	Yes
Dillip Behera	OSA-New England	Chapter President	Yes
Nilasundar Jena	OSA – NYNJ	Chapter President	Yes
Mousumi Swain	OSA – Southern	Chapter President	No
Sukanta Dash	OSA – Mt Hood	Chapter President	Yes
Amulya Das	OSA – Seattle (WA)	Chapter President	No
Sourav Parida	OSA – Carolinas	Chapter President	Yes
Smaranika Rout	OSA – South West	Chapter President	Yes
Kamala Kanta Behera	CANOSA	Chapter President	No
Manoranjan Sahoo	OSA – Chicago	Chapter President	No
Jayanti Mohapatra	OSA -- MN	Chapter President	No
Deepak Jena	OSA – Rocky Mountain	Chapter President	No
Girija Prasad Rout	OSA Michigan	Chapter President	No
Bidyashree Parhi	OSA DC	Chapter President	Yes
Nirakar Jena	OSA - Florida	Chapter President	Yes
Vacant	OSA - MD/VA	INACTIVE	NA
Vacant	OSA - Ozark	INACTIVE	NA
Vacant	OSA - Grand Canyon	INACTIVE	NA

Agenda

- Introduction / Roll Call
- Chapter update
- Nashville Convention Seed Money
- Tax filing
- Membership Data Update
- NDF Committee (09:00 - 9: 15 PM)

Introduction

The meeting started with a brief Meet and Greet over Zoom online video conference. The session was started by the President Leena Mishra.

Chapter update

Nirakar Jena, the president of the Florida chapter, shared updates on the chapter's activities. He mentioned that they recently organized a picnic and are planning upcoming events such as Saraswati Puja followed by Utkala Dibasa. He also raised a concern about an OSA committee member who has not actively participated in chapter activities and appears to be misleading some individuals about OSA. Nirakar said how he will address this issue as a chapter president. In response, Leena Mishra acknowledged the concern and emphasized gathering more information. She suggested hearing directly from the individual involved before deciding on the next steps to address the matter.

Satyabrata Mohanty, the chapter president of California, reported that the chapter is planning a picnic in the summer to celebrate the Raja festival, following suggestions from President Leena Mishra. Additionally, they are working on planning for Utkala Dibasa.

Dillip Behera OSNE chapter president stated that they are planning for Saraswati puja. Chinmaya Panda, the Georgia chapter president shared that the chapter held a General Body Meeting (GBM) recently. Chinmaya was joined by the chapter secretary, Sarthak Das, who informed the BOG about the upcoming Avahan event the chapter is organizing.

Mount Hood chapter president Sukanta Dash informed all BOG members about their upcoming activities, including plans for a Raja picnic and organizing volunteering programs aligned with OSA guidelines.

President Leena Mishra reminded all members that the primary goal of hosting Odia festivals at the chapter level is to familiarize our kids with our culture and stay connected with our Odia traditions and values through these celebrations.

Treasurer's Desk

- Nashville Convention Seed Money
- Tax filing

Treasurer Subhransu Mishra informed all the BOG members that the Nashville Convention team has not yet returned the convention seed money. As the Executive Committee (EC), we have repeatedly requested them to return the funds. It was emphasized that the seed money should be returned to OSA much before the convention account settlement - and it is not tied to the convention's profit or loss. All BOG members agreed that the seed money should be returned. Satya Brata Mohanty, the California chapter leader, raised the question of what actions would be taken if the team failed to return the money. In response, President Leena Mishra stated that the convention team should raise funds from their chapter to reimburse the seed money. Also, we can ask them to join the BOG meeting to learn more about this. All the BOG members decided the secretary would send an email regarding this. And we will go for further action upon their reply.

Treasurer Subhransu Mishra requested all chapter leaders to provide the necessary documents for tax filing. These include bank statements and any CDs that exist in the OSA chapter account. He emphasized

that all documents should be submitted as soon as possible to ensure that OSA does not face any delays in this year's tax filing. He also assured all the chapter leaders to work on the membership returning transaction for every chapter.

Membership Data Update

Secretary Santwana Dash asked all the chapter leaders to go through the membership list of their respective chapters and validate all the status of the members of their respective chapters. She informed all the chapter leaders about the membership data shared with the Nashville Jagannath Society. Previously it might have been shared or they got it from the convention team as it has happened in 2024. But as an OSA official, she did not share with them. Then she asked all the BOG members whether it is a right thing to share the membership details in the future or not. Unanimously all the presented chapter leaders say no. OSA should not share any details of the membership to any organization outside of OSA

NDF Committee

Basant Mohapatra the lead of the NDF committee addressed the BOG. He shared his vision for NDF and RDF. RDF was started in the year 2008 and till now around 150 dramas have been played in person in the RDF. This year the 5th NDF is going to happen virtually on March 22nd and 23rd 2025. He asked the chapter leaders to appoint a contact point as a Drama Coordinator of the respective chapter for better coordination.

President's Message

OSA President Leena Mishra provided an update to all BOG members about her recent visit to India and her experience attending the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD). She mentioned that OSA, as an organization, holds its own respect and dignity and does not require endorsements or personal references to engage with government officials when needed. Leena stressed that a request from OSA carries significant weight, and it is the collective responsibility of all members to uphold and maintain this standing. She also shared details of her participation in the OPLI conference. Furthermore, Leena informed the members that the Rs. 50,00,000 previously held by the government is now set to be released, thanks to her efforts in communicating and advocating for it through official channels.

Chapter update (Second session)

Bidyashree Parhi, the chapter president of Washington D.C. shared that they plan to celebrate Saraswati Puja and have outlined their annual activities on a calendar. She also requested Treasurer Subhransu Mishra to process the reimbursement for the chapter membership fee.

Ohio chapter president Supragyan Dash mentioned that they are also planning Saraswati Puja.

Southwest Chapter President Smaranika Rout provided an update, mentioning that the chapter recently hosted a successful music program. However, she noted that the convention inauguration program was initially planned to be presented by the Southwest Chapter. This triggered a strong reaction from BOG members since the convention is OSA's annual event and the inauguration should have representation from all chapters. This led to the need for a follow-up meeting to address the issue ensuring participation from all chapters. After the BOG meeting another call was scheduled and a decision was made to include all chapters in the inauguration program.

Nilasundar Jena, the president of the OSANYNJ chapter mentioned that they are planning to celebrate Saraswati Puja and Sourav Parida, the chapter president of Carolinas, informed that they celebrated the New Year and are planning events for Holi and Utkala Dibasa.